

# CBPS Tutorial

## Painting chickens - by Jane Dwight

### 1. The Hen

Begin the hen by painting her beak and eye with a plum blossom brush.

Add her comb in scarlet.

Her feathers are painted with a soft, goat hair brush. Paint large strokes of light ink along the back, add a couple of darker lines for the folded wings. Paler, dryer ink strokes will give her a fluffy lower body with a 'trouser' at the top of the leg.



The tail can be painted with an orchid bamboo brush, using short thick dark strokes sweeping back to the body.

Legs can be painted in yellow or grey and in outline or with a solid line.



On a separate piece of paper paint several pairs of legs and feet. Change the position of them, as well as their colour and line. Move the different feet into position below the bird. Select the legs and feet that look best and paint them onto the hen. This is the easiest way to decide how the feet should look on the finished bird.



## 2. The Cockerel

Using a plum blossom brush begin the cockerel by painting his beak and eye in ink.

Add a scarlet comb above and below the eye as pictured.

Splay the hairs on a wet goat hair brush and pick up a little pale ink to paint the feathers of the neck. Light dry strokes will give a fluffy feeling.

The rest of the body is done in wetter strokes, add dots of darker ink to give a speckled look, and add a dark couple of lines to indicate folded wings.



The tail feathers can be painted with an orchid bamboo brush sweeping each stroke from the tip of the feather back to the body.

Paint legs on the cockerel using the same method as explained for the hen.



### 3. Chicks.

Use a large soft brush to paint the chicks. Colours can vary but here we are using ink.

Paint a round top to the head with two short strokes and then use three smaller strokes for the stubby wings and back.

Dilute your ink to very pale and paint a long stroke starting at the chin, getting larger as it goes around the tummy, and finishing at the tail.



A beak and an eye can be added. Some examples here show chicks with just a beak.

Place a small dab of thick cinnabar paint just above the beak, for the comb.



